



DROUGHT PREPAREDNESS COUNCIL

RICK PERRY
Governor

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W. NIM KIDD
Council Chairperson

August 22, 2014

TO: The Honorable Rick Perry, Governor, State of Texas

The Honorable David Dewhurst, Lieutenant Governor, State of Texas

Mrs. Nandita Berry, Secretary of State, State of Texas

The Honorable Leticia R. Van de Putte, President Pro-Tempore of the Senate, State of Texas

The Honorable Joe Straus, Speaker of the House, State of Texas

The Honorable Tommy Williams, Chairman, Senate Finance Committee, State of Texas

The Honorable Troy Fraser, Chairman, Senate Natural Resources Committee, State of Texas

The Honorable Craig Estes, Chairman, Senate Committee on Agriculture, Rural Affairs & Homeland Security, State of Texas

The Honorable Joseph Pickett, Chairman, House Committee on Homeland Security & Public Safety, State of Texas

The Honorable Jim Pitts, Chairman, House Appropriations Committee, State of Texas

The Honorable Allan Ritter, Chairman, House Natural Resources Committee, State of Texas

The Honorable Tracy O. King, Chairman, House Agriculture & Livestock Committee, State of Texas

The Honorable Abel Herrero, Chairman, House Criminal Jurisprudence Committee, State of Texas

Mr. Jeff Boyd, Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor

Mr. Steven McCraw, Director, Texas Department of Public Safety

FROM: Assistant Director Nim Kidd, Texas Division of Emergency Management

SUBJECT: Statewide Drought Situation Report

Nim Kidd, Chairman
Texas Division of Emergency Mgmt

Sam Hermitte, Member
Texas Water Development Board

Steven Bednarz, Member
State Soil & Water Conservation Board

Lance Williams, Member
Texas Department of Agriculture

Dr. Travis Miller, Member
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

David Bradsby, Member
Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

Gilbert Jordan, Member
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David A. Van Dresar, Member
Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts

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Chris Loft, Member
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Quality

Mark Ellison, Member
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Dr. John W. Nielsen-Gammon, Member
Office of the State Climatologist

Michael Dunivan,
Member Texas A&M
Forest Service

Regina Erasles,
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Kent Saathoff, Member
Electric Reliability Council
of Texas

Oscar Fogle, Member

William Masterson, Member

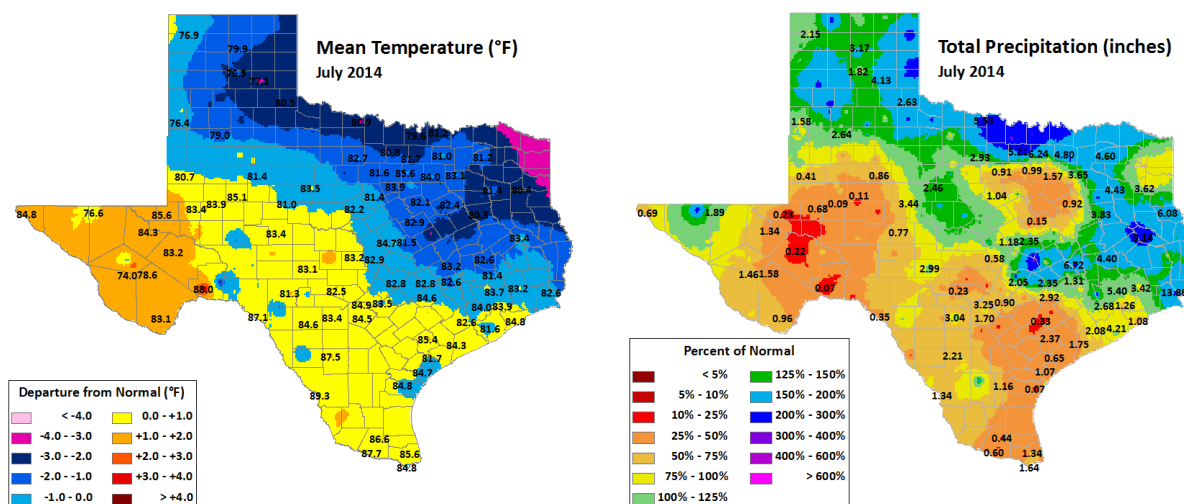
Thomas M. Martine, Member

1. Next Council Meeting

September 11, 2014 at 2:00pm

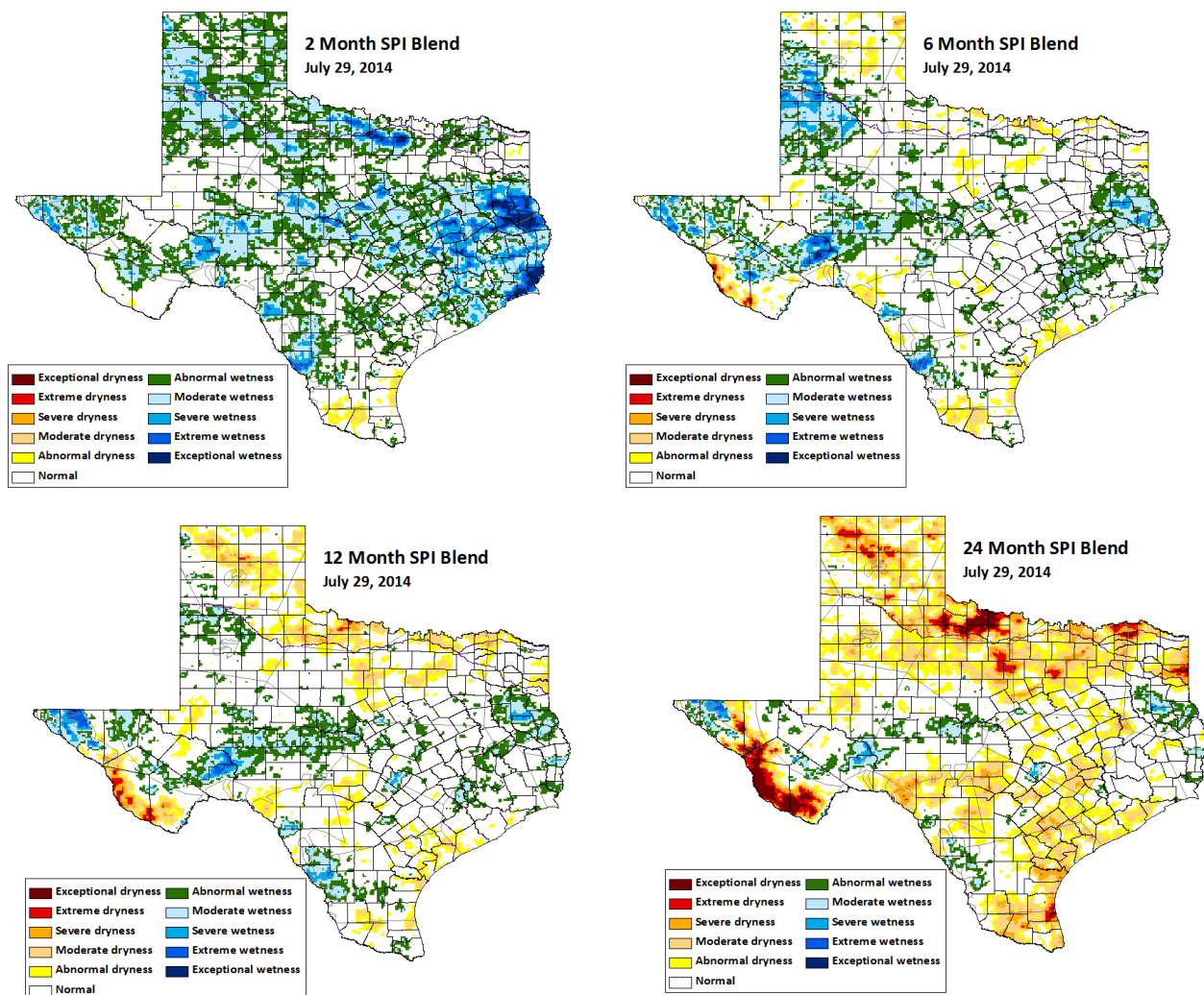
2. General Conditions

July in Texas was cooler than normal for much of the state, particularly the northern half. The northeast border with Oklahoma and Arkansas saw the lowest temperatures relative to normal, and temperature anomalies tended to increase towards the southwest. Far west Texas was the warmest compared to normal, ranging anywhere between 2 and 4 degrees above normal, with the southern half of the state marginally above normal with some exceptions. Precipitation saw a similar trend, with the north half of the state being wetter than the southern half. Much of east and north Texas saw rainfall between 5 to 10 inches, due to rare frontal activity, Gulf-drive convection, and, in the case of the Panhandle, productive monsoon rains. The Coastal Bend, Lower Valley, and southern High Plains were all dry compared of normal, receiving anywhere from 10 to 50 percent of normal on average.



Plentiful rainfall for much of north central Texas helped improve the short-term deficits that had been developing there over the course of the previous two months; their two and six-month blends have improved to be, at worst, abnormally dry rather than at any drought level. Similar conditions had developed in the far southeast corner of the state, which also saw enough rainfall to completely reduce their short-term deficits and remove drought conditions entirely. Other improvements were seen in the Panhandle and Low Plains, both of which saw above normal precipitation for the month. All these regions saw improvements to crop moisture and total column soil moisture, and streamflow for the Red River in particular has improved from near record low to only slightly

below normal for the upper portions.

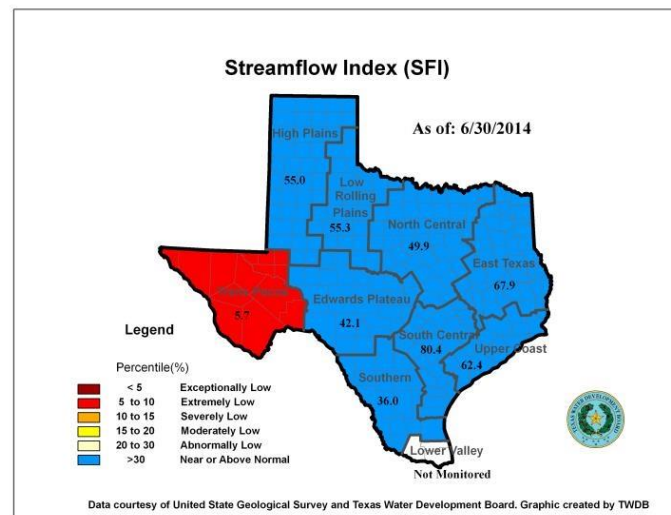
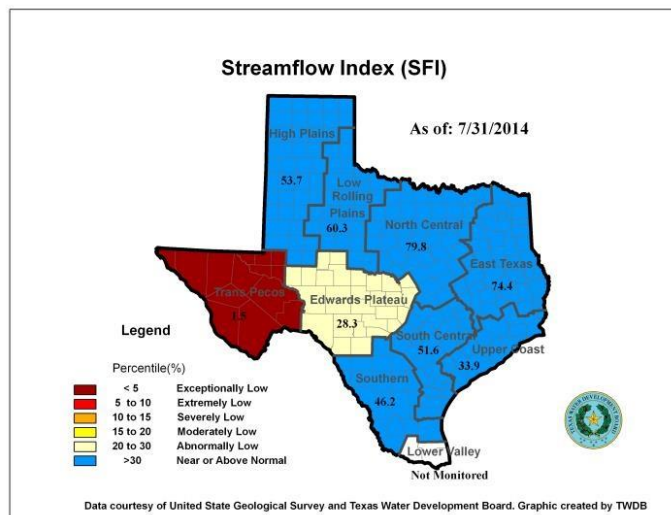
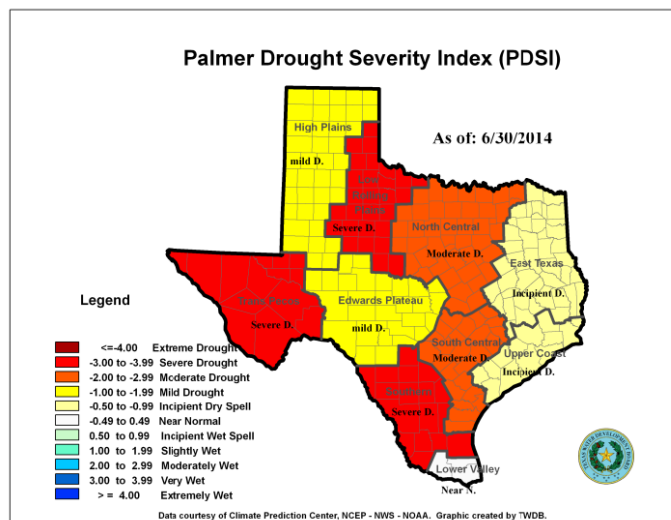
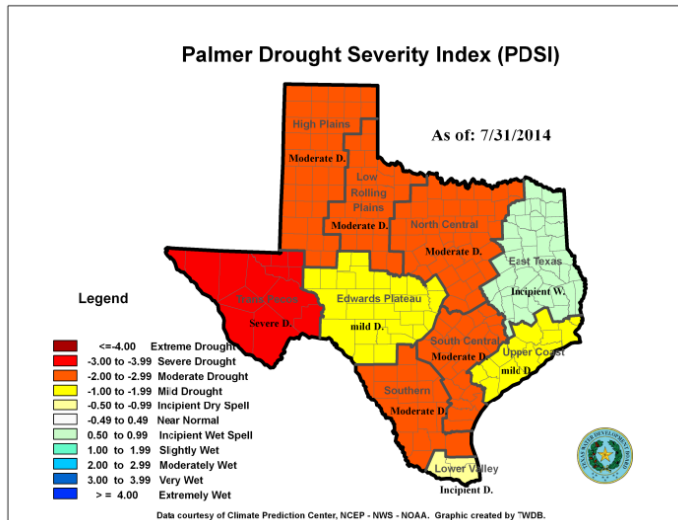


For the rest of the state, conditions stood their ground for the most part. Statewide reservoir storage remained approximately the same throughout the month, with some slight dips and jumps where dry conditions and rains hit major recharge regions; this itself is good news as reservoir conditions were poor and statistically decline further during July on average. Local conditions were not stationary though, with north central Texas seeing improvements that were offset statewide due to decreases in reservoir storage in central Texas and the Coastal Bend. Streamflow and soil moisture remains below average in the latter region, though still pales in comparison to the long-term deficits driving the hydrological drought conditions affecting the state. As a result, drought conditions where rainfall was not seen were still slow to change.

The outlook for August is optimistic for some regions and pessimistic for others. For temperature, the entire state has equal chances of being normal, above normal, or below normal. For precipitation, far west Texas and the High Plains are more likely to see above normal rainfall, with the northwest corner of the Panhandle likely to see well-above normal precipitation in association with the southwest monsoon. The Lower Valley, on the other hand, is likely to see well-below normal precipitation, which does not bode well for its developing short-term drought conditions. Looking out farther into the year, the probabilistic forecast for a positive phase ENSO event has declined, now only reaching a maximum forecast probability of 65% by the end of the November-December-January period, down from 85% last month.

3. Statewide Drought Conditions Update

Selected Drought Index Maps

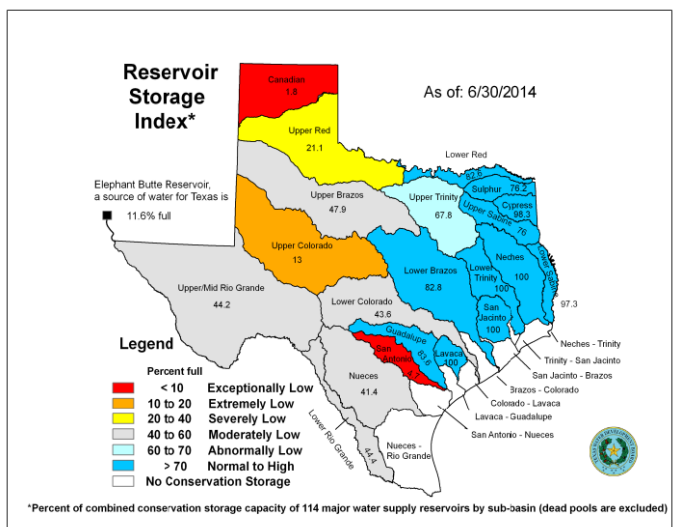
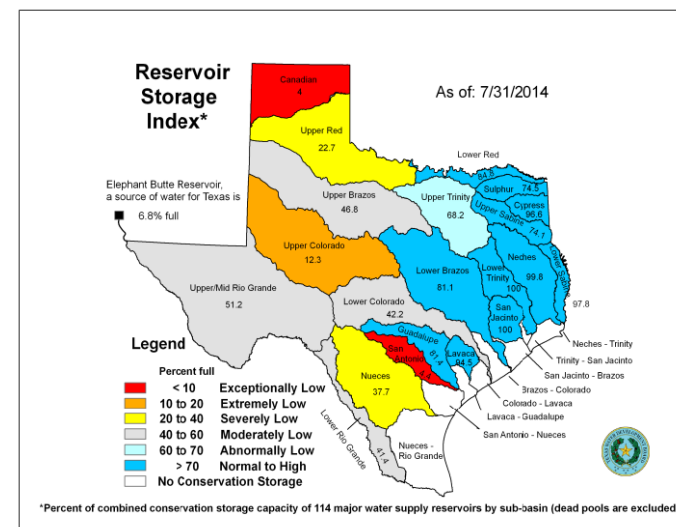
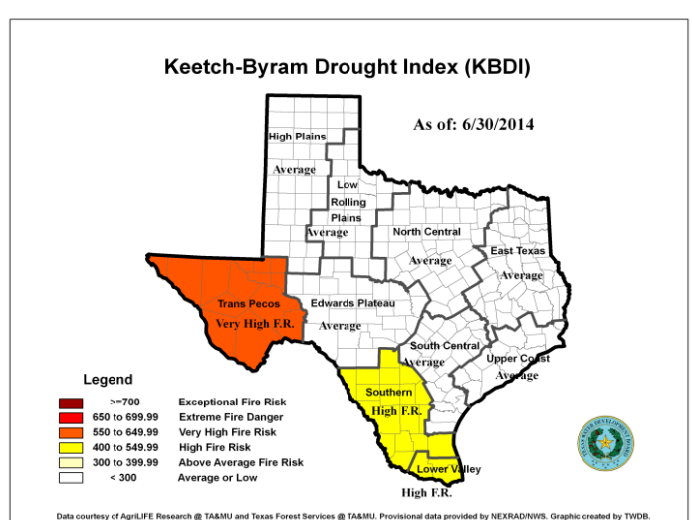
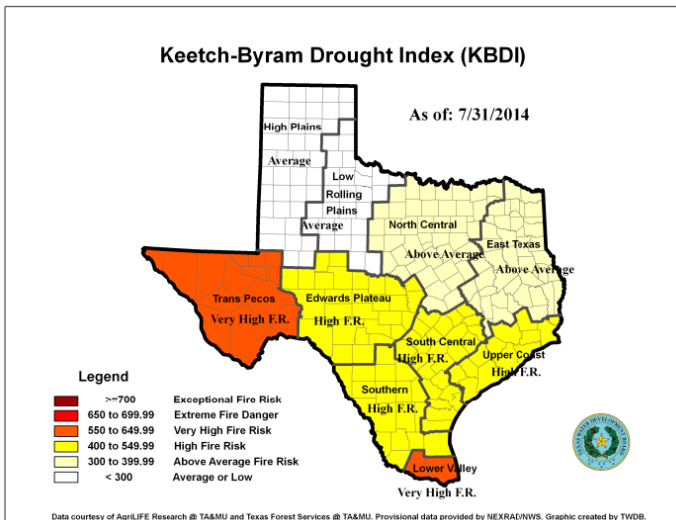
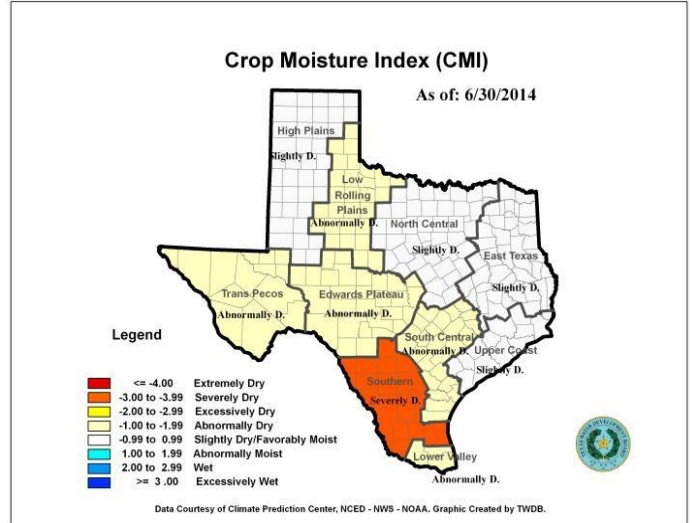
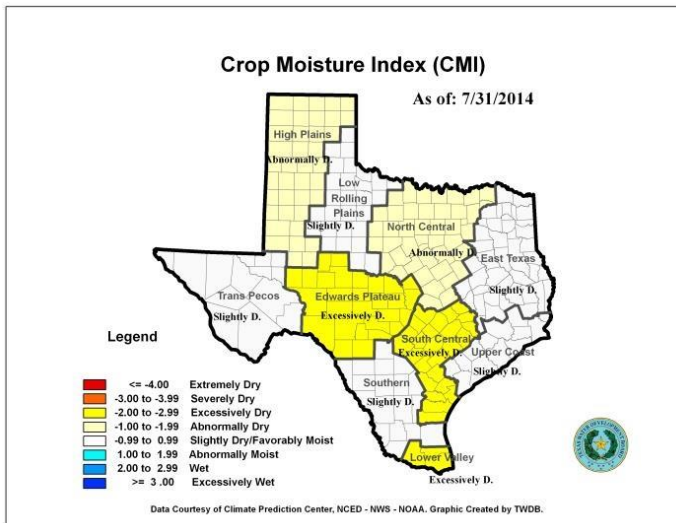


Standardized Precipitation Index

Data not available at time of report

Standardized Precipitation Index

Data not available at time of report



Drought Status Summary

Texas is in drought now as indicated by the Palmer Drought Severity Index.

Number of Regions In Drought Category

Drought Index	High Drought			Lower Drought		Not in Drought
	Exceptional Dry / Drought	Extreme Dry / Drought	Severe Dry / Drought	Moderate or Excessive Dry / Drought	Abnormal or Mild Dry / Drought	Near or Above Normal Condition
	Exceptional High Fire Risk	Extreme High Fire Risk	Very High Fire Risk	High Fire Risk	Above Average Fire Risk	
PDSI (10)	N/A	0	1	5	2	2
SFI (9)	1	0	0	0	1	7
6 Month SPI (10)	N/A	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data
CMI (10)	N/A	0	0	3	2	2
KBDI (10)	0	0	2	4	2	2
Number of River Basins / Sub-Basins In Drought Category						
RSI (21)	2	1	2	4	1	11

Region ID	Region Name	Crop Moisture Index	Palmer Drought Severity Index	Standardized Precipitation Index	Keetch-Byram Drought Index	Reservoir Storage Index	Streamflow Index
1	High Plains	-1.07	-2.57	No data	239	4.20	53.70
2	Low Rolling Plains	-0.75	-2.48	No data	272	21.70	60.30
3	North Central	-1.29	-2.21	No data	345	69.00	79.80
4	East Texas	0.45	0.71	No data	361	97.10	74.40
5	Trans Pecos	-0.85	-3.24	No data	645	51.20	1.50
6	Edwards Plateau	-2.22	-1.80	No data	412	37.50	28.30
7	South Central	-2.39	-2.45	No data	485	46.90	51.60
8	Upper Coast	-0.49	-1.17	No data	413	96.90	33.90
9	Southern	-0.88	-2.76	No data	518	30.90	46.20
10	Lower Valley	-2.39	-0.98	No data	596	No Data	No Data

Drought Index Data

The comparison of index values with last month is summarized below:

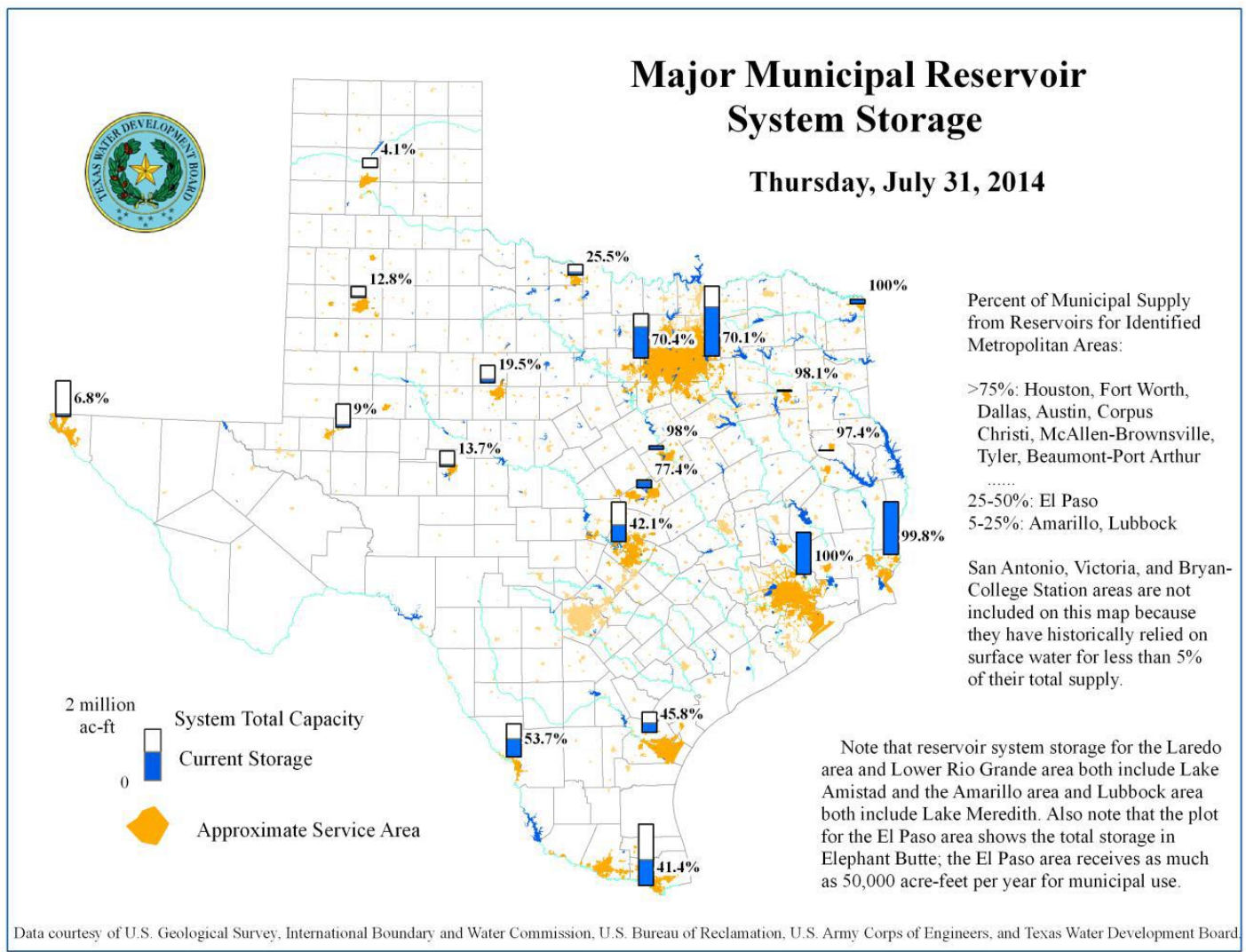
Drought Index	Index Value Improved in # Regions (Bold in table above)	Index Value Deteriorated in # Regions (Italic in table above)	Index Value Unchanged in # Regions
PDSI (10)	5	5	0
SFI (9)	4	5	0
SPI (10)			
CMI (10)	4	6	0
KBDI (10)	0	10	0
RSI (21)	6	13	2

Reservoir Storage Condition

Water storage conditions are summarized below by river basins for the 114 of Texas major reservoirs at the end of the month:

- The statewide combined storage was 67% full at 21.04 million acft in total combined storage. This is 213,800 acre-feet less than a month ago.
- By the river basins, storage was lower than normal in 10 basin or sub-basins but Near or Above Normal in all other 11 basin or sub-basins,
- Exceptionally low in Canadian River basin and San Antonio sub-basins,
- Extremely low in Upper Colorado sub-basin basin,
- Severely low in Upper Red River sub-basin,
- Moderately low in and Upper Brazos and Lower Colorado sub-basins, as well as in Rio Grande basin.
- Abnormally low in Upper Trinity sub-basin,
- Near or above Normal in all other 11 basins or sub-basins.

The elephant Butte Reservoir held 134,667 acft of water, at 7% full by the month end.

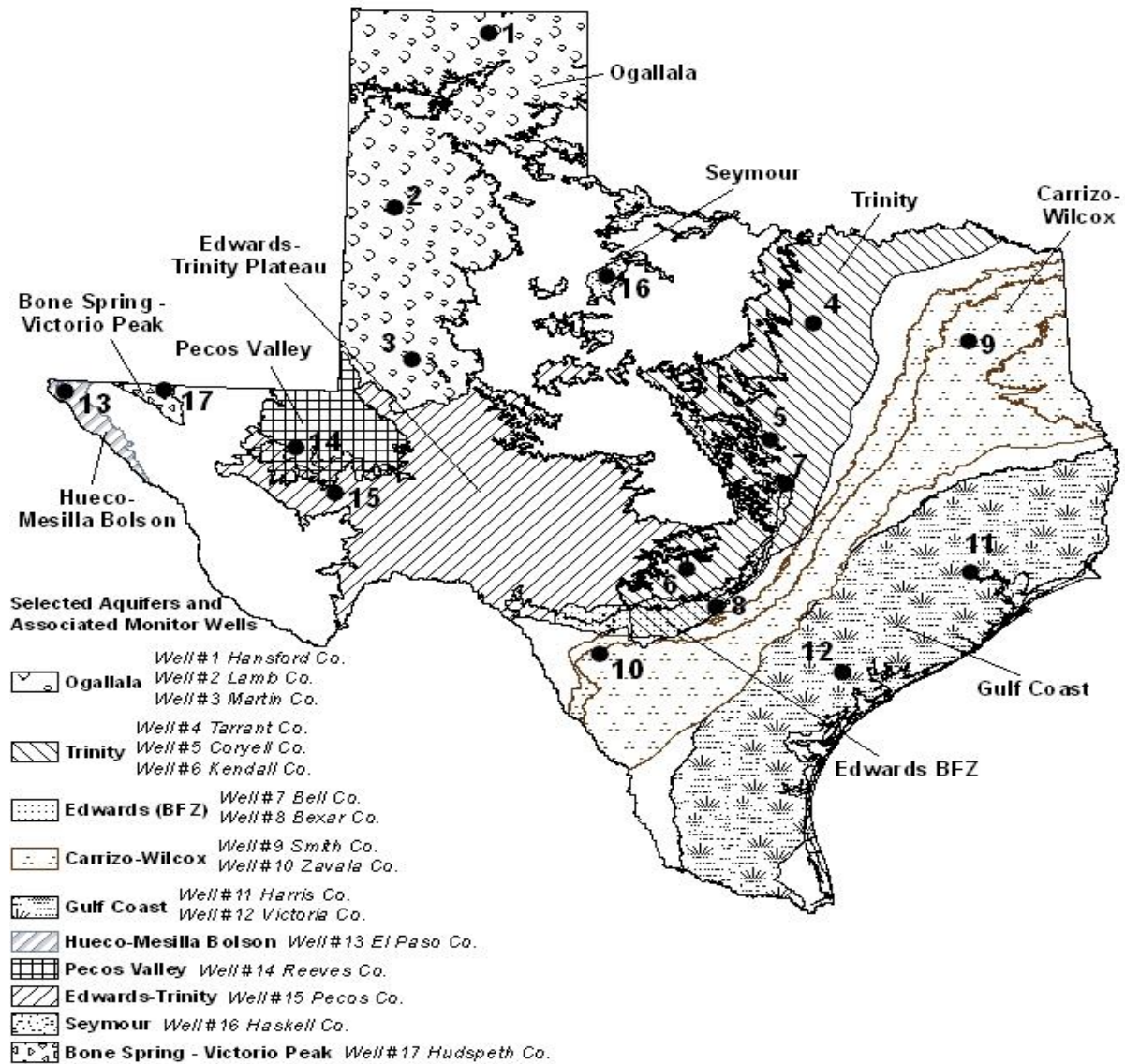


Groundwater Conditions

- Water level measurements were available from all 17 key monitoring wells in the state.
- Water levels rose in two of the monitoring wells since the beginning of July, ranging from 1.42 feet in the El Paso County Hueco-Mesilla Bolson Aquifer well (well #13) to 1.76 feet in the Hudspeth County Bone Spring-Victorio Creek Aquifer well (well #17).
- Water levels declined in fifteen monitoring wells, ranging from 0.08 feet in the Dallas County Trinity Aquifer well (well #4) to 16.77 feet in the Kendall County Trinity Aquifer well (well #6).
- The J-17 well in San Antonio recorded a water level of 97.2 feet below land surface or 633.8 feet above mean sea level. This water level is 6.2 feet below the Stage III critical management level in that segment of the Edwards Aquifer.

Monitoring Well	July	June	Month change	Year change	Historical change
1) Hansford 0354301	155.32	155.05	-0.27	-1.12	-85.2
(2) Lamb 1053602	144.55	144.38	-0.17	-0.83	-116.4
(3) Martin 2739903	143.07	NA	NA	-0.75	-38.18
(4) Dallas 3319101	487.31	487.23	-0.08	0.71	-265.31
(5) Coryell 4035404	501.88	501.57	-0.31	4.3	-209.88
(6) Kendall 6802609	153.85	137.08	-16.77	-5.88	-93.85
(7) Bell 5804816	127.28	125.88	-1.4	1.25	-4.15
(8) Bexar 6837203	97.2	90.91	-6.29	-3.2	-50.56
(9) Smith 3430907	439.11	437.93	-1.18	0.51	-73.11
(10) La Salle 7738103	503.02	491.02	-12.0	-18.55	-249.95
(11) Harris 6514409	193.95	192.6	-1.35	0.68	-58.45
(12) Victoria 8017502	36.95	35.55	-1.4	-1.47	-2.95
(13) El Paso 4913301	294.48	295.9	1.42	-0.51	-62.58
(14) Reeves 4644501	164.04	161.52	-2.52	-7.94	-71.95
(15) Pecos 5216802	241.94	232.5	-9.44	-10.36	4.94
(16) Haskell 2135748	49.09	48.79	-0.3	-1.04	-7.76
(17) Hudspeth 4807516	148.73	150.49	1.76	-1.41	-44.81

Groundwater Observation Wells Location Map



6. Water Utility Status

Overall, there are **1,173** water systems that are asking their customers to restrict water use (no change from a month ago). Of these systems, **782** are asking customers to follow a mandatory watering schedule and **391** are asking customers to follow a voluntary watering schedule. There are currently **61** PWSs that have prohibited all outside watering by their customers. A total of **1,601** water systems have reported to the TCEQ regarding their status using the online form on the TCEQ public website. Seasonal forecasts extending into late October 2014 indicate drought conditions will likely persist or intensify for most areas of the state. Drought development is likely in the southern portions of the state. Drought conditions may improve in the northern most portions of the panhandle region and drought removal is likely in the western most area of the state.

7. Water Rights – Statewide

New temporary water use permit applications are being reviewed on a site-specific basis and issued if there is sufficient surplus water at the requested source. The number of applications for new water use permits and amendments to existing permits was normal for the month.

The availability of unappropriated water for new water use permits continues to be limited in all river basins in the State, and the search for long-term, dependable alternate sources of water remains a high priority issue.

8. Water Rights – Lower Rio Grande / Rio Grande Watermaster (RGWM)

Current Conditions: On July 26, 2014, the U.S. combined ownership at Amistad/Falcon stood at 41.54% of normal conservation capacity, impounding 1,409,014 acre-feet, up from 31.84 (1,079,866 AF) of normal conservation a year ago at this time. Overall the system is holding 35.71 % of normal conservation capacity, impounding 2,115,142 acre-feet with Amistad at 39.23% of conservation capacity, impounding 1,284,975 acre-feet and Falcon at 31.36% of conservation capacity, impounding 830,167 acre-feet. Mexico has 27.91% of normal conservation capacity, impounding 706,128 acre-feet at Amistad/Falcon.

Allocations: As of printing of the June, 2014 ownership report, we have allocated 387,246.2383 acre-feet to Class A & B water rights this year, which include irrigation, mining and recreation.

Storage & Loss Amistad vs. Falcon: The U.S. is currently storing approximately 988,000 acre-feet at Amistad (53.7%); and approximately 420,000 acre-feet (27.1%) of normal conservation capacity at Falcon. Evaporation and seepage losses at Amistad cycle, as of 7/26/14, are

108,963 acre-feet. For the same period, the U.S. has lost 89,747 acre-feet at Falcon.

Releases to meet demands: : In 2014, (through 7/26/14), Mexico has released 409,965 acre-feet from Amistad and 535,259 acre-feet from Falcon for Mexico needs. The U.S. has released 454,289 acre-feet from Falcon and 334,254 acre-feet from Amistad for U.S. needs. Combined with gains between Amistad and Falcon, U.S. inflows to Falcon have totaled 417,205 acre-feet. The U.S. demand in the lower Rio Grande has been met at a rate of 92% by direct Rio Grande inflows and Amistad releases this year.

Upper Rio Grande (New Mexico): Currently, Elephant Butte in New Mexico is storing 133,767 (6.61%) acre feet and Caballo Dam in New Mexico, downstream of Elephant Butte is storing 31,618 (13.93%) acre-feet. This water storage in part is used to meet water needs in the El Paso area.

Outlook: 44% of all accounts began 2014 at 0% water available, 27% of all accounts began 2014 with 0-50% of their usable balance and only 29% of all accounts began 2014 with 50-100% of their usable balance available. The National Weather Service continues to report that moderate to abnormally dry conditions with a few areas still under severe to extreme drought conditions are affecting parts of Rio Grande Basin counties.

9. River Basin Reports

Stream flow conditions vary widely across the state. When considering drought conditions, United State Geological Survey (USGS) streamflow data are commonly used as a metric for comparison. This report uses monthly mean river flows in cubic feet per second (cfs) to represent average monthly conditions within each river basin. The historical median flow value for the month (the discharge which is equaled or exceeded 50% of the time) is used to prevent the inclusion of high flow values that would skew the data.

Red River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	July mean (cfs)	July historical median (cfs)
Red River near Burkburnett	595	228
Red River near De Kalb	856	4,560

Drought Condition: As of July 29, 97% of the Red River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; with 14% of the basin experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

Drought Restrictions: Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits.

Sulphur River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	July mean (cfs)	July historical median (cfs)
Sulphur River near Talco	219	17

Drought Conditions: As of July 29, 49% of the Sulphur River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; however, 0% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions

Drought Restrictions: Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits.

Cypress Creek Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	July mean (cfs)	July historical median (cfs)
Little Cypress Creek near Jefferson	42	27

Drought Conditions: As of July 29, 3% of the Cypress Creek Basin is experiencing moderate drought conditions; however, 0% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

Drought Restrictions: Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits.

Sabine River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	July mean (cfs)	July historical median (cfs)
Sabine River near Beckville	253	291
Sabine River near Ruliff	3,328	3,640

Drought Conditions: As of July 29, 34% of the Sabine River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; however, 0% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

Drought Restrictions: Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits.

Neches River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	July mean (cfs)	July historical median (cfs)
Angelina River near Alto	420	114
Neches River at Evadale	3,885	2,510

Drought Conditions: As of July 29, 9% of the Neches River Basin is experiencing moderate drought conditions; however, 0% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

Drought Restrictions: Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits.

Trinity River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	July mean (cfs)	July historical median (cfs)
Trinity River at Dallas	461	370
Trinity River near Oakwood	960	921
Trinity River at Romayor	2,105	1,860

Drought Conditions: : As of July 29, 56% of the Trinity River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; with 0% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

Drought Restrictions: Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits.

Brazos River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	July mean (cfs)	July historical median (cfs)
Double Mountain Fork Brazos River near Aspermont	19	8
Brazos River near Glen Rose	20	390
Little River at Cameron	413	419
Navasota near Easterly	25	13
Brazos near Hempstead	1,507	1,900
Brazos near Rosharon	1,712	1,570

Drought Conditions: As of July 29, 75% of the Brazos River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; with 3% of the basin experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

Drought Restrictions: Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits.

Colorado River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	July mean (cfs)	July historical median (cfs)
Colorado River at Ballinger	0.20	10
San Saba River at San Saba	39	49
Llano River at Llano	38	90
Pedernales River near Johnson City	1	24
Colorado River at Columbus	452	1,860

Drought Conditions: As of July 29, 80% of the Colorado River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; however, 0% of the basin experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

Drought Restrictions: Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits; however,

in the Concho Watermaster Area, the Concho Watermaster continues to monitor the streamflow conditions and modify diversion requests as needed.

Guadalupe River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	July mean (cfs)	July historical median (cfs)
Guadalupe River near Spring Branch	12	107
San Marcos River at Luling	167	195
Guadalupe River at Cuero	265	921
Guadalupe River at Victoria	265	908

Drought Conditions: As of July 29, 63% of the Guadalupe River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; however, 0% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

Drought Restrictions: Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits; however, some water rights in the upper Guadalupe River Basin can only divert on a limited schedule. The South Texas Watermaster continues to monitor the streamflow conditions and modify diversion requests as needed. All temporary permits are being reviewed on a case by case basis.

San Antonio River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	July mean (cfs)	July historical median (cfs)
San Antonio River at Falls City	226	197
Cibolo Creek at Falls City	21	22

Drought Conditions: As of July 29, 45% of the San Antonio River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; however, 0% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

Drought Restrictions: Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits; however,

the South Texas Watermaster continues to monitor the streamflows conditions and modify diversion requests as needed. All temporary permits are being reviewed on a case by case basis.

Nueces River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	July mean (cfs)	July historical median (cfs)
Nueces river at Tilden	79	4
Frio River near Derby	0.04	0.6
Atascosa River at Whitsett	11	7

Drought Conditions: As of July 29, 31% of the Nueces River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; however, 0% of the basin experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

Drought Restrictions: Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits; however, the South Texas Watermaster continues to monitor the streamflow conditions and modify diversion requests as needed. All temporary permits are being reviewed on a case by case basis.

Statewide Rainfall Totals

July 1- 31, 2014

City/Station	Rainfall Totals (in)
Brazos River Basin	
Lubbock	2.64
Abilene	2.46
Waco	0.15
College Station	6.72
Colorado River Basin	
Midland	0.33
San Angelo	0.77
Austin Mabry	5.58
Austin Bergstrom	2.05
Neches River Basin	
Tyler	4.35
Lufkin	9.12
Sabine River Basin	
Longview	3.62
Trinity River Basin	
Dallas/ Fort Worth	0.98

10. Agriculture

Information unavailable at time of report.

The Drought Preparedness Council is comprised of state agencies concerned with the effects of drought and fire on the citizens of the State of Texas.

The attached information was compiled and provided by representatives listed below. Points of contact, telephone numbers, and web site addresses are also provided.

Nim Kidd, Texas Division of Emergency Management, (512) 424-2436, fax (512) 424-2444, website: <http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem>

Sam Hermitte, Texas Water Development Board, (512) 463-5617, fax (512) 475-2053, website: <http://www.twdb.texas.gov/>

Chris Loft, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, (512) 239- 4715, fax (512) 239-4770, website: <http://www.tceq.state.tx.us>

Steven Bednarz, Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Board, (254) 773- 2250, fax (254) 773-3311, website: <http://www.tsswcb.state.tx.us>

Lance Williams, Texas Department of Agriculture, (512) 463-3285, fax (800) 835-2981, website: <http://agr.state.tx.us>

Dr. Travis Miller, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, (979) 845- 4808, fax (979) 845-0456, website: <http://texasextension.tamu.edu>

David Bradsby, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, (512) 912-7015, fax (512) 707-1358, website: <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us>

Gilbert Jordan, Texas Department of Transportation, (512) 416-3270, fax (512) 416-2941, website: <http://www.txdot.state.tx.us>

Michael Dunivan, Texas A&M Forest Service, (830) 997-5426, website: <http://txforestservice.tamu.edu>

Priscilla Boston, Texas Department of State Health Services, (512) 801-9816, fax (512) 458- 7111, website: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/>

Tad Curtis, Office of the Governor, Economic Development & Tourism, (512) 936-0047, website: <http://www.governor.state.tx.us/divisions/ecodev>

David A. Van Dresar, Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts, (979) 968-3135, fax (979) 968-3194, website: <http://www.texasgroundwater.org/>

Dr. John W. Nielsen-Gammon, Office of the State Climatologist, (979) 862-2248, fax (979) 862-4466, website: <http://www.met.tamu.edu/osc/>

Marisa Callan, Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, (512) 475-3964, website: <http://www.tdhca.state.tx.us>

Regina Chapline Eroles, Public Utility Commission of Texas, (512) 936-7392, Website: www.puc.texas.gov/

Warren Lasher, Electric Reliability Council of Texas, (512)248-3011, www.ercot.com

Attachment 1 Climatic Regions

